



California Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans News

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U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs .Announces Travel Reimbursement Increases for Eligible Veterans

Veterans will see an increase of more than 40 percent in the mileage reimbursement they receive from the USDVA when they have to travel long distances to receive medical treatment, Secretary Tom Johnson from the California Department of Veterans Affairs announced today.

"With so many veterans in California living in areas without a USDVA medical facility nearby, this increase will help make traveling to a medical facility a little bit easier," Johnson said when he announced the decision by the US Department of Veterans affairs to increase reimbursements 13 cents a mile.

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dr. James B. Peake announced that he will use his authority to raise the mileage reimbursement from the 28.5 cents per mile to 41.5 cents per mile for all eligible veterans.

"We owe it to our veterans to give them the best care possible," said Peake. "The increase will once again provide assistance to our veterans, especially in these difficult economic times, to help offset gasoline costs and to assist veterans with access to the USDVA's world-class health system."

Congress, which mandates such increases, recently provided funding to USDVA to increase the reimbursement rate, which goes into effect on November 17, 2008. Service connected veterans, veterans receiving USDVA pensions, and veterans with low incomes are eligible for the reimbursement.

While increasing the payment, the current deductible amounts applied to certain mileage reimbursements will remain frozen at \$7.77 for a one way trip, \$15.54 for a round trip, and capped at a maximum of \$46.62 per calendar month. On January 9, 2009, these deductibles will decrease to \$3 for a one way trip, \$6 for a round trip, with a maximum of \$16 per calendar month. Deductibles can be waived if they cause a financial hardship to the veteran.

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